

Jiang et al.

S/N: 10/707,405

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed August 4, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7-9, 11, 13-18, and 21-33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Mliner et al. (USP 6,898,265). The Examiner next rejected claims 1 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Karellas (USP 5,519,227). Claims 6, 10, 12, and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mliner et al. Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ackelsberg et al. (USP 6,285,741) and Karellas.

Applicant appreciates the indication that claim 30 is allowed.

Claims 1, 15, and 22 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of originally presented claims 2, 16, and 23, respectively. By these amendments, Applicant believes the rejection of claims 1 and 22 as being anticipated by Karellas to be traversed. Similarly, Applicant believes the amendment to claim 15 traverses the obviousness rejection proffered by the Examiner based on the combination of Ackelsberg et al. and Karellas.

Claims 2, 16, and 23, as originally presented, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Mliner et al. While Applicant believes there are numerous distinctions between that which is being claimed and that disclosed by the reference; nevertheless, Applicant has elected to disqualify Mliner et al. as a §102(e) reference under 37 C.F.R. §1.131. Accordingly, Applicant refers the Examiner to the antedating declaration enclosed herewith.

Applicant has also added new claims 34-44. Claims 34-44 incorporate the subject matter of claims 5-12 and claims 19-21, respectively. Originally presented claims 5-12 and 19-21 were rejected as being anticipated by Mliner et al. and, as such,

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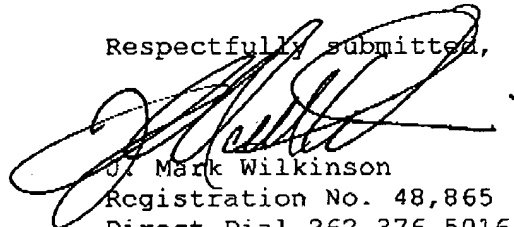
Applicant believes the enclosed antedating declaration disqualifies the reference as prior art against the newly presented claims.

Claims 2, 5-12, 16, 19-21, and 23 have been canceled. An Amendment Transmittal form is enclosed.

Therefore, in light of at least the foregoing, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1, 3-4, 13-15, 17-18, 22, 24-44.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,



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